



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## **Council on Aging Minutes 07/16/07**

Minutes of the July 16 Transportation Committee mtg. approved at the August 20 mtg. of the Transportation Committee:

### **ARLINGTON COUNCIL ON AGING**

27 Maple Street  
Arlington, MA 02476-4909

Robert Tosi, Jr., Chair  
Shirley Chapski, Secretary

Meeting of the COA Transportation Committee  
July 16, 2007

### **MINUTES**

Place and Time of Meeting: Arlington Senior Center, 27 Maple St., Arlington, 4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Robert Tosi, Jr., Paul West, Karen Nichols, Harry McCabe, William Carey and Shirley Chapski.

Members Absent: Ann MacGowan and Mildred Hurd

Others Present: John Jope, COA Executive Director and William Murphy, COA Transportation & Volunteer Services Coordinator

Call to Order: Bob Tosi presided and Shirley Chapski kept the minutes. A quorum of 6 was present.

Minutes of the June 7, 2007 Transportation Committee Meeting: There being no corrections to the minutes of the June 7, 2007

Meeting of the Transportation Committee, Paul moved to accept the minutes, Shirley seconded, five in favor, Harry abstained.

Application to the Executive Office of Transportation & Construction (EOT) for a New Van: Bob spoke on the status of the application for a new van. The Town Manager has signed off on it as has Bob. John added that we now wait to learn the results of the EOT's review of the application.

COA Transportation Enterprise Program: Christine Connolly and John made a presentation on the Transportation Program to Town Manager, Brian Sullivan, and Deputy Town Manager, Nancy Galkowski. Details of the program were discussed as well the possible use of Sevoyan Trust funds as an interim solution. The Town has contracted with an organization, Multi Staff, who work with municipal agencies and departments on the difficult choices they face in their programs.

Department heads were asked to suggest a program and Christine Connolly offered the COA Transportation Program as a difficult area and she and John put together a presentation. John will keep us filled in on what goes on.

COA Transportation Program Ridership Figures: The ridership figures of both the COA van service and Dial-a-Ride Taxi service were reviewed and discussed.

Dial-A-Ride Taxi Service (DART) : The Dial-a-Ride contract ends on December 31, 2007. The current "Request for Bids" was reviewed and discussed, and John expects the contractor to increase the fare of a one-way trip from \$7.50 to \$8.50 and the question is how the cost increase would be shared with the rider.

John would like a couple of board members to meet with him and bring the final result back to the full board. Harry asked if we have made a decision to renew the DART contract or use the funds to beef up our van program. Bill Murphy said if we did this we would double the number of people using the vans and we would need to run two vans every day. Bill Murphy said the COA staff has put a lot of thought into the difficulties the Transportation Program is facing and they propose that \$30,000 for each of two years be drawn from the Sevoyan Trust fund as an interim solution in order to make the program secure. Concurrently, an in-depth Needs Assessment Survey will be conducted.

Bob will draft a letter addressed to Fincom Chair and CC: Town Manager, Dept Head, COA Dir, Fincom subcommittee members Deyst and Franclemont. We can discuss the merits of this strategy together. to the Town and FINCOM and also do a Needs Assessment.

There being no further discussion, Shirley voted to adjourn, Paul seconded, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Shirley Chapski, Secretary

Next Meeting of the Transportation Committee August 20, 2007 at 4 p.m.